

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MBABAN 00532 031551Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ST-01 /010 W

-----031558 004429 /42

P R 031405Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1255

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, WZ

SUBJECT: AMBULANCE FOR KING SOBHUZA

REFS: STATE 21661, DURBAN 42, MBABANE 0423

1. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (DPM) KHUMALO CALLED CHARGE MARCH 3 TO ASK EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE CONCERNING DISPOSITION OF AMBULANCE MENTIONED REFTELS. DURBAN HARBOR AUTHORITIES HAVE INFORMED DR. GILBERT THAT AMBULANCE WILL BE SOLD IF OUTSTANDING BILLS NOT PAID BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9. GOS WISHES AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO KING, TO WHOM AMBULANCE BEING SHIPPED "AS DONATION FROM MOUNT ZION TEMPLE, 523 EIGHTH STREET, NORTHEAST, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002" TO QUOTE DPM. GOS THEREFORE REQUESTS EMBASSY/DEPARTMENT HELP IN GETTING MESSAGE PASSED URGENTLY TO REVEREND ANNIE BELLE HAGLER OF THAT CHURCH, TO EFFECT THAT GOS WOULD APPRECIATE CHURCH'S PAYING OUTSTANDING BILLS IN ORDER TO PERMIT AMBULANCE TO BE RELEASED AND DELIVERED TO KING. DPM MENTIONED ONLY R2513 FIGURE CITED DURBAN REFTEL. CHARGE AGREED INFORM DEPARTMENT AND TO ADVISE DPM OF OUTCOME.

2. FYI, EMBOFF WAS ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT CONVENED MARCH 1 BY PRIME MINISTER
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MAPHEVU. MEETING WAS INCONCLUSIVE EXERCISE IN WHICH PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED WISH TO GET AMBULANCE DELIVERED SOONEST IN ORDER AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO KING. REFLECTING DUALITY OF SWAZI POWER STRUCTURE, HOWEVER, PRIME MINISTER MADE CLEAR THAT HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO APPROACH GILBERT ON THIS MATTER BECAUSE OF GILBERT'S CLOSENESS TO KING. CALL TO CHARGE ON MARCH 3 WAS OUTCOME

OF MEETING INVOLVING DPM, GILBERT, AND MARTIN MDINISO (KING'S PRIVATE SECRETARY). BELIEVE THAT LATTER MEETING WAS STIMULATED BY GILBERT, WHO SEEKING ANY AVAILABLE DEVICE TO REMOVE FROM HIMSELF THE ONUS OF AMBULANCE NON-DELIVERY DEBACLE. PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING, ON OTHER HAND, WAS CLEARLY ANTI-GILBERT IN TONE.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S TRANSMITTING TO REV. A. HAGLER THE DPM'S MESSAGE IN PARA 1 ABOVE AND ADVISING EMBASSY OF OUTCOME.
WACHOB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: GROUND VEHICLES, GOVERNMENT DEBTS, GIFTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, WZ, US, (SOBHUZA II), (HAGLER, ANNIE BELLE)
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